

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 13, and ending on line 17 with the following amended paragraph:

In block 525, a refresh request is received. Refreshing involves changing keys after a certain duration. Refreshing, also referred to as re-keying, ~~serves~~ serves at least two purposes. First, for cryptographic reasons, it is a good idea to change keys from time to time. The longer a key is used, the more likely it is that someone will be able to crack the key and access the event without authorization. The more often keys are changed, the better the security.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 6, and ending on line 13 with the following amended paragraph:

As illustrated in Figure 6, the event interval 630 is also the forward security window for the next event interval 630. That is, while the client is sending or receiving content using the current key during the current event interval, the client also accesses the key server during the forward security window to get the next refresh key. In alternate embodiments, the event interval and the forward security window do not exactly coincide. That is, the forward security window may be shorter or longer than the event interval, and the client may retrieve keys from the key server more than one event ~~internal interval~~ in advance.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 21, and ending on page 23, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Where the security agent of Figures 12 and/or 13 is used in combination with the networking environment of Figure 1, the database of selector / security association pairs is populated by a client when the client ~~accesses~~ accesses key server 140 and receives keying information.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 17, and ending on page 25,
line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

In alternate embodiments, the present invention is implemented in discrete hardware or firmware. For example, one or more application specific integrated circuits (ASICs) could be programmed with the above described functions of the present invention. In another example, the present invention could be implemented in one or more ASICs on additional circuit boards and the circuit boards could be inserted into the computer(s) described above. In another example, field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs) or static programmable gate arrays (SPGA) could be used to implement the present invention. In yet another example, a combination ~~or~~ of hardware and software could be used to implement the present invention.